



# **A G E N D A**

## **BUSHFIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

To be held

**Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025**  
**Commencing at 7.00pm**

At

Shire of Dardanup  
Administration Centre Eaton  
1 Council Drive - EATON

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~ Electronic Format  
Upon request.



## NOTICE OF BUSHFIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Dear Committee Member

The next Shire of Dardanup Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025 in the Council Chambers, Shire of Dardanup - Administration Centre Eaton, 1 Council Drive, Eaton - commencing at 7.00pm.



**MR ANDRÉ SCHÖNFELDT**  
Chief Executive Officer

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2025

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## VISION STATEMENT

“The Shire of Dardanup is a healthy, self-sufficient and sustainable community, that is connected and inclusive, and where our culture and innovation are celebrated.”

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Mr Chris Hynes	-	CBFCO Eaton Townsite District
Mr Clay Rose	-	DCFCO (North) / FCO Burekup District (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr Robert Drennan	-	DCFCO (South) / FCO Waterloo District
Mr Lyndon Skeers	-	FCO Ferguson District
Mr Neil Dyer	-	FCO West Dardanup District
Mr Grant Ratcliffe	-	FCO Upper Ferguson District
Mr Brendon Putt	-	FCO Dardanup Central District
Mr Jeff Duncombe	-	FCO Joshua/Crooked Brook District
Mr Russel Harvie	-	FCO Wellington Mill District
Mr Alan Charlton	-	Fire Weather Officer
Mr Ricky Southgate	-	Department of Fire & Emergency Services
Mr Jewell Crossberg	-	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
Cr. T Gardiner	-	Elected Member (Chairperson)
Cr. A Jenour	-	Elected Member

**STAFF MEMBERS**

Mr Stephen Loiterton	-	Coordinator Health, Emergency and Ranger Services
Mr Dallas Brennan	-	Emergency Management Officer
Mr Paul Sydney-Smith	-	Senior Ranger

**OBSERVERS**

Mr André Schönfeldt	-	Chief Executive Officer
Mr Ashwin Nair	-	Director Sustainable Development

## COUNCIL ROLE

Advocacy	When Council advocates on its own behalf or on behalf of its community to another level of government / body /agency.
Executive/Strategic	The substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council eg. Adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.
Legislative	Includes adopting local laws, town planning schemes and policies.
Review	When Council reviews decisions made by Officers.
Quasi-Judicial	<p>When Council determines an application/matter that directly affects a person's rights and interests. The Judicial character arises from the obligations to abide by the principles of natural justice.</p> <p>Examples of Quasi-Judicial authority include town planning applications, building licences, applications for other permits/licences (eg: under Health Act, Dog Act or Local Laws) and other decisions that may be appealable to the State Administrative Tribunal.</p>

## DISCLAIMER

"Any statement, comment or decision made at a Council or Committee meeting regarding any application for an approval, consent or licence, including a resolution of approval, is not effective as an approval of any application and must not be relied upon as such.

Any person or entity that has an application before the Shire must obtain, and should only rely on, written notice of the Shire's decision and any conditions attaching to the decision, and cannot treat as an approval anything said or done at a Council or Committee meeting.

Any advice provided by an employee of the Shire on the operation of a written law, or the performance of a function by the Shire, is provided in the capacity of an employee, and to the best of that person's knowledge and ability. It does not constitute, and should not be relied upon, as a legal advice or representation by the Shire. Any advice on a matter of law, or anything sought to be relied upon as a representation by the Shire should be sought in writing and should make clear the purpose of the request."

**SHIRE OF DARDANUP****AGENDA FOR THE SHIRE OF DARDANUP BUSHFIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2025, AT SHIRE OF DARDANUP – EATON ADMINISTRATION CENTRE, COMMENCING AT 7.00PM.****1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

The Chairperson, to declare the meeting open, welcome those in attendance and refer to the Disclaimer and the Affirmation of Civic Duty and Responsibility on behalf of Councillors and Officers:

*Acknowledgement of Country*

*The Shire of Dardanup wishes to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the Noongar people. In doing this, we recognise and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this region and pay our respects to their elders, past, present and emerging. The Shire of Dardanup also respects and celebrates all cultures of all our residents and visitors to our Shire.*

*Affirmation of Civic Duty and Responsibility*

*Councillors and Officers of the Shire of Dardanup collectively declare that we will duly, faithfully, honestly and with integrity fulfil the duties of our respective office and positions for all the people in the district according to the best of our judgement and ability. We will observe the Shire's Code of Conduct and Standing Orders to ensure efficient, effective and orderly decision making within this forum.*

*Committee members acknowledge that only the Chief Executive Officer or a member of the Shire of Dardanup staff appointed by the Chief Executive Officer is to have contact with consultants and suppliers that are appointed under contract to undertake the development and implementation of projects.*

*The exception to this Policy is when there is a meeting of the committee or working group with the consultant and the Chief Executive Officer or the Chief Executive Officer's representative is present.*

*Members of committees acknowledge that a breach of this Policy may result in a request to Council to have them removed from the committee.*

*Emergency Procedure*

*In the event of an emergency, please follow the instructions of the Chairperson who will direct you to the safest exit route. Once outside, please proceed to the Assembly Area points located to the western side of the front office car park near the skate park and gazebo where we will meet (and complete a roll call).*

**2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED****2.1 Attendance****2.2 Apologies**

Mr Alan Charlton	-	Fire Weather Officer
Mr Chris Hynes	-	CBFCO Eaton Townsite District
Mr Ricky Southgate	-	Department of Fire & Emergency Services
Mr Brendon Putt	-	FCO Dardanup Central District

**3. PRESENTATIONS****4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING****4.1 Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting Held 9<sup>th</sup> of July 2025****BFAC RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION**

**THAT the Minutes of the Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2025, be confirmed as true and correct subject to no / the following corrections:**

**5. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF MATTERS FOR WHICH MEETING MAY BE CLOSED**

None.

**6. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

“Members should fill in Disclosure of Interest forms for items in which they have a financial, proximity or impartiality interest and forward these to the Presiding Member before the meeting commences.”

**7. ACTION SHEET UPDATE**

No actions outstanding.

<b>8      REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES</b>
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**8.1      Title: Update Report from Chief Bush Fire Control Officer**

<b>Reporting Department</b>	CBFCO - Dardanup
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Mr Chris Hynes

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

**Activity Report since Last BFAC Meeting**

<i>Fire Call Outs</i>	Waterloo attended waste recycling facility and provided support to Bunbury FRS
<i>Appliance and Equipment</i>	N/A
<i>Training</i>	Branch out training event was well supported special thanks Kaitlan Southgate and the Ferguson BFB hosting the event.
<i>Meetings Held</i>	Attended AFAC conference in Perth Attended Ministers Volunteer Advisory Forum
<i>Membership – Recruitment/Resignation</i>	N/A
<i>Concerns</i>	N/A
<i>Initiatives</i>	
<i>Other News</i>	

**Item/s For BFAC Discussion**

None.



## 8.2 Title: Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions – Officer Report

**Reporting Department***Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions***Reporting Officer***Mr Jewell Crossberg*

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

No Report Provided.

### 8.3 Title: Department of Fire & Emergency Services (DFES) – Mr Ricky Southgate

**Reporting Department**

DFES

**Reporting Officer**

Mr Rowan Hunter

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

Fire Call Outs	N/A																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Appliance and Equipment	Dardanup West received their new 1.4. Training and sign-off with members is still in progress. The retiring 1.4 will be returned to fleet for disposal																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Training	<p>Only 1 Dardanup BFB volunteer has been impacted by a course cancellation (IC Level 1 in May), they have confirmed on the October course already, so will not miss out. There remains a need for LG driving courses as we have only been able to confirm a maximum of 1 volunteer from the LG on regional DFES courses, with a number of others missing out on this training.</p> <table><tr><th>Course</th><th>Month</th><th>Status</th><th>Total Students</th><th>Dardanup LG applications</th><th>Dardanup LG confirmed</th><th>Dardanup LG cancelled</th><th>Dardanup LG declined by DFES</th></tr><tr><td>Incident Controller L1</td><td>May</td><td>Cancelled</td><td>9</td><td>1</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Assist with Planned Burning</td><td>May</td><td>Cancelled</td><td>2</td><td>0</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Remote Area Firefighting</td><td>March</td><td>Completed</td><td>12</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Provide First Aid</td><td>March</td><td>Completed</td><td>9</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Assist with Planned Burning</td><td>April</td><td>Completed</td><td>9</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Structural Firefighting</td><td>May</td><td>Completed</td><td>9</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>On Road Driving</td><td>May</td><td>Completed</td><td>11</td><td>7</td><td>0</td><td></td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>Workplace Trainer Assessor</td><td>May</td><td>Completed</td><td>14</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>ALIMS 2017</td><td>May</td><td>Completed</td><td>19</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Fire Control Officer</td><td>May</td><td>Completed</td><td>6</td><td>0</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Pump Operations</td><td>June</td><td>Completed</td><td>10</td><td>3</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Advanced Bush Firefighting</td><td>June</td><td>Completed</td><td>16</td><td>7</td><td>7</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Crew Leader</td><td>June</td><td>Completed</td><td>15</td><td>5</td><td>5</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>On Road Driving</td><td>June</td><td>Completed</td><td>5</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td></td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>Off Road Driving</td><td>June</td><td>Completed</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td></td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>Incident Reporting Systems</td><td>June</td><td>Completed</td><td>10</td><td>0</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Bushfire Safety Awareness</td><td>July</td><td>Completed</td><td>10</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Firefighting Skills</td><td>July</td><td>Completed</td><td>15</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Emergency Driving</td><td>August</td><td>Completed</td><td>6</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Sector Commander</td><td>August</td><td>Completed</td><td>9</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Provide First 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Controller</td><td>September</td><td>Completed</td><td>10</td><td>0</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Plantation Firefighting</td><td>September</td><td>Completed</td><td>15</td><td>7</td><td>7</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Off Road Driving</td><td>October</td><td>Planned</td><td>5</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td></td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Incident Controller L1</td><td>October</td><td>Planned</td><td>10</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Provide First Aid</td><td>November</td><td>Planned</td><td>12</td><td>0</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	Course	Month	Status	Total Students	Dardanup LG applications	Dardanup LG confirmed	Dardanup LG cancelled	Dardanup LG declined by DFES	Incident Controller L1	May	Cancelled	9	1				Assist with Planned Burning	May	Cancelled	2	0				Remote Area Firefighting	March	Completed	12	3	2	1		Provide First Aid	March	Completed	9	1	1			Assist with Planned Burning	April	Completed	9	4	4			Structural Firefighting	May	Completed	9	1	1			On Road Driving	May	Completed	11	7	0		7	Workplace Trainer Assessor	May	Completed	14	2	1	1		ALIMS 2017	May	Completed	19	2	2			Fire Control Officer	May	Completed	6	0				Pump Operations	June	Completed	10	3	2	1		Advanced Bush Firefighting	June	Completed	16	7	7			Crew Leader	June	Completed	15	5	5			On Road Driving	June	Completed	5	4	1		3	Off Road Driving	June	Completed	6	4	1		3	Incident Reporting Systems	June	Completed	10	0				Bushfire Safety Awareness	July	Completed	10	3	3			Firefighting Skills	July	Completed	15	2	2			Emergency Driving	August	Completed	6	2	1	1		Sector Commander	August	Completed	9	1	1			Provide First Aid	August	Completed	11	1	1			WAERN Basic and Advanced	August	Completed	15	3	3			Plantation Firefighting	August	Completed	8	0				Structural Firefighting	August	Completed	8	1		1		On Road Driving	August	Completed	7	3	1		2	Pump Operations	August	Completed	10	4	1		3	Mental Health First Aid	August	Completed	14	0				Machine Supervision	September	Completed	10	4	2	2		Ground Controller	September	Completed	10	0				Plantation Firefighting	September	Completed	15	7	7			Off Road Driving	October	Planned	5	3	1		2	Incident Controller L1	October	Planned	10	2	2			Provide First Aid	November	Planned	12	0			
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Initiatives	<p><b><u>BGU Management workshop</u></b></p> <p>The SW Region has implemented a brigade management workshop on Saturday 20th September 0900 till 1600hrs at the Bunbury Lighthouse. RSVP's have closed but if you wish to attend contact vmso.southwest@dfes.wa.gov.au or 9780 1953</p> <p><b><u>Pre-season Forum</u></b></p> <p>DFES SW have commenced planning for a pre-season forum to be held at the sanctuary on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November, invites to be sent in due course.</p>																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																

<i>Other News</i>	<p><b><u>Aboriginal Cultural heritage (ACH)</u></b>  DFES SW Superintendent is working with DPLH for points of contact within the Southwest region to aid in fire response queries in areas of ACH, once established the contacts will be advised.</p> <p><b><u>High Season Fleet</u></b>  DFES SW have managed to keep 2 x LT and 1 x 2.4 for mitigation fleet. Should the Shire require them to assist in completed prescribed burns, please reach out.</p> <p><b><u>DFES Machinery contractors</u></b>  A review with DFES procurement is currently underway with an attempt to add a few more local contractors onto the DFES procurement list for suitable equipped and experienced machinery / operators in fire suppression. For Collie area this would include TandR contracting and Cardinal's contractors</p> <p><b><u>New Urban Area Officer</u></b>  Jeremy Willis has been appointed as Area Officer Forrest. Jeremy will be managing the Brunswick, Collie, Harvey, Waroona and Pinjarra Volunteer Fire and Rescue Services. Jeremy comes with 30+ years of firefighting experience. He was an Area Officer in the Goldfields Midlands Region for 6 years and has more recently been working in the DFES State Operations Centre.</p>

#### 8.4 Title: Burekup District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Clay Rose

Reporting Department	Burekup BFB
Reporting Officer	Mr Clay Rose - FCO

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

##### **Activity Report Since Last BFAC Meeting**

<i>Fire Call Outs</i>	Incidents (1) 2-9-25 arson Dowdells Line verge fire
<i>Appliance and Equipment</i>	Appliance: on board compressor repaired.
<i>Training</i>	Training: 8-9-25
<i>Meetings Held</i>	Meetings: committee meeting 28-8-25
<i>Membership – Recruitment/Resignation</i>	
<i>Concerns</i>	
<i>Initiatives</i>	Initiatives: Attended the branch out event.
<i>Other News</i>	Other news: Rocks blocking turning area at end of Collie River Road have been removed.

##### **Item/s For BFAC Discussion**

None.

8.5                    Title: Dardanup Central District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr  
Brendon Putt

Reporting Department	Dardanup Central BFB
Reporting Officer	Mr Brendon Putt

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

**Activity Report since Last BFAC Meeting**

No Report Provided.

**Item/s For BFAC Discussion**

## 8.6 Title: Ferguson Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Lyndon Skeers

### Reporting Department

Ferguson BFB

### Reporting Officer

Mr Lyndon Skeers

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

### **Activity Report since Last BFAC Meeting**

<i>Fire Call Outs</i>	0
<i>Appliance and Equipment</i>	Light Tanker is currently being serviced, we appreciate this being completed early and before the fire season begins. Our members are willing to assist with drop-off/pick up of vehicle provided there is enough notice and timely communication.
<i>Training</i>	Twice monthly training has recommenced
<i>Meetings Held</i>	3
<i>Membership – Recruitment/Resignation</i>	Nil
<i>Concerns</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Still no news or feedback about our shed extension</li> <li>2. Still no action on fuel cards so we have more options to get fuel</li> </ol>
<i>Initiatives</i>	As of the 22/9 we have approved Nine form 82 Firebreak Exemptions
<i>Other News</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 members attended the Disaster Ready Facilitator/Community Engagement conference in July.</li> <li>• 2 members attended AFAC conference</li> <li>• Team of 4 members participated in Branch Out event, Ferguson Brigade was runner up winner to Waterloo Brigade.</li> <li>• FCO, Captain and Lieutenant attended the BGU Management Workshop 20/9.</li> </ul>

### **Item/s For BFAC Discussion**

#### 1. Item One – Fuel Cards

Offices can provide an update at the BFAC meeting.

#### 2. Shed Extension

The Shire's procurement process for the shed extension and fit out has recently been completed. A report is being presented to Council at its October 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting to consider the submissions received. It is likely that the construction will be occurring in two (2) stages, the construction of the shed and earthworks as the first stage. Subject to grant funding in the next year, the internal fit out as stage 2. This will ensure the project can be delivered. Officers will advise once a decision of Council has been made.

### 8.7 Title: Joshua Creek / Crooked Brook Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Jeff Duncombe

<b>Reporting Department</b>	<i>Joshua Creek / Crooked Brook BFB</i>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	<i>Mr Jeff Duncombe</i>

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

#### **Activity Report Since Last BFAC Meeting**

<i>Fire Call Outs</i>	None.
<i>Appliance and Equipment</i>	Alterations to pump trailer and new doors on the Shed.
<i>Training</i>	3 Held, 2 with Upper Ferguson.
<i>Meetings Held</i>	Nil brigade meetings.
<i>Membership – Recruitment/Resignation</i>	Nil
<i>Concerns</i>	Nil
<i>Initiatives</i>	Nil
<i>Other News</i>	Nil

#### **Item/s For BFAC Discussion**

None.

8.8 Title: Upper Ferguson District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Ryan Gibbs

<b>Reporting Department</b>	<i>Upper Ferguson BFB</i>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	<i>Mr Ryan Gibbs - Captain</i>

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

**Activity Report Since Last BFAC Meeting**

<i>Fire Call Outs</i>	1 since last meeting
<i>Appliance and Equipment</i>	Scheduled appliance service complete. New equipment – UFBFB now possesses 2 x firefighting petrol blowers to be kept on truck.
<i>Training</i>	Scheduled for last Thursday each month in combination with JCBBFB
<i>Meetings Held</i>	Nil brigade meetings.
<i>Membership – Recruitment/Resignation</i>	Nil
<i>Concerns</i>	
<i>Initiatives</i>	Season launch FCO's/Captains briefing held at UFBFB 23/9/25 - successful with all shire FCO's, Captains, DFES reps and Shire EMO in attendance to discuss important issues relating to the upcoming season.
<i>Other News</i>	

**Item/s For BFAC Discussion**

None



8.9

Title: Waterloo District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Rob Drennan**Reporting Department***Waterloo BFB***Reporting Officer***Mr Rob Drennan*

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

**Activity Report Since Last BFAC Meeting**

No Report Provided.

**Item/s For BFAC Discussion**

None.

### 8.10 Title: Wellington Mill District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Russell Harvie

**Reporting Department** Wellington Mill BFB  
**Reporting Officer** Mr Russell Harvie

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

#### **Activity Report Since Last BFAC Meeting**

<i>Fire Call Outs</i>	Nil since last meeting
<i>Appliance and Equipment</i>	Servicing completed; issue with lagging around exhaust – currently being investigated
<i>Training</i>	Training plan for 2025/26 season complete
<i>Meetings Held</i>	2 since last BFAC
<i>Membership – Recruitment/Resignation</i>	2 new members – total of 8 awaiting training opportunities
<i>Concerns</i>	BART usage; lack of training spots
<i>Initiatives</i>	Contact with DBCA for a coordinated cool burn of Community Park
<i>Other News</i>	Bush Fire Ready coordinators are active now and community briefing scheduled for October 13 <sup>th</sup> .

#### **Item/s For BFAC Discussion**

1. Item One – BART usage – protocols to be discussed

Noted. To be discussed at BFAC.

3. Item Two – Training opportunities – when the numbers warrant - bring the trainer to the brigade not the brigade to the trainer.

The Shire is happy to work close with DFES and schedule availability of trainers to hold onsite training sessions within the Shire to ensure the maximum number of volunteers can attend.

### 8.11 Title: West Dardanup District Fire Control Officer Report – Mr Neil Dyer

**Reporting Department** West Dardanup BFB  
**Reporting Officer** Mr Neil Dyer

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

#### **Activity Report Since Last BFAC Meeting**

<i>Fire Call Outs</i>	Nil to date
<i>Appliance and Equipment</i>	Have taken possession of a new 1.4 Iveco fire unit. We have been allowed to retain the old appliance for a transition period to allow members time to familiarize themselves with the new appliance as it has a lot more technology onboard.

	<p>The transition period has not been specified, and training is on-going.</p> <p>The vehicle has been well received by members. Thanks to DFES and the Shire for the provision of the vehicle.</p>
<i>Training</i>	Have commenced fortnightly training again and in the lead up to the new fire season will ensure training is provided for the key areas to ensure members are properly prepared for the fire season.
<i>Meetings Held</i>	<p>The brigade continues to hold it bi-monthly executive meetings to discuss the operation of the brigade.</p> <p>Have attended meeting to assist with the development of the brigade manual</p>
<i>Membership – Recruitment/Resignation</i>	Two new members have joined the brigade; one has previous experience. Inductions have been completed for both members and we are currently investigating if basic training is available for them prior to the commencement of the fire season.
<i>Concerns</i>	Have received concerns about the use of fire access track in the area by unauthorized vehicles. This information has been referred to Shire for consideration/action.
<i>Initiatives</i>	
<i>Other News</i>	<p>Would like to express a note of thanks to the Shire and Council on behalf of the brigade for the funding for training purposes. The provision of these funds will enable the brigade to expand our training programs.</p> <p>Would like to thank the team that put together the Breakout event for the brigades. It was a good event and allowed interaction with other brigades on a social basis. The event also highlighted some weakness in our training program which we are already looking to address.</p>

**Item/s For BFAC Discussion**

None.

8.12      Title: Coordinator Health, Emergency & Ranger Services Report – Mr Stephen Loiterton

**Reporting Department**

Shire of Dardanup

**Reporting Officer**

Mr Stephen Loiterton – Coordinator Health Emergency & Ranger Services

(In the interest of time efficiency report to be accepted as presented, not read aloud at the meeting)

**Community Emergency Service Manager**

The Department of Fire and Emergency Services supports a program that partly funds the salaries of Community Emergency Services Managers within some local government entities. The CESM will provide a link between the local government, the Department, Bush Fire brigades and State Emergency Service units, helping to plan, administer, coordinate and support their volunteer services.

The Shire had lobbied the State government to fund a Community Emergency Service Manager for the Shire of Dardanup. The Shire has been advised that DFES has allocated one CESM for the Shire.

The Shire will be working with DFES to prepare for the new role and the overall plan for the CESM. The Shire will keep the Brigades updated as this progresses.

**Mitigation Activity Fund**

The Western Australian government has established the Mitigation Activity Fund Grants Program (MAFGP) to reduce bushfire hazards that present a high risk to assets throughout the State. The program supports local governments with endorsed Bushfire Risk Management Plans to treat bushfire risk in their communities on State land that they manage.

The Shire will be seeking a 3-year grant covering 2025-2028. The Bushfire Risk Management Coordinator has reassessed risks and is identifying treatments to include in the application. The 3-year program should enable more flexibility with treatment scheduling.

**STAND Program**

Following the 2019/2020 Back Summer Fires the Commonwealth Government's *Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disasters* (STAND) program was initiated. The Commonwealth has recently announced an extension to the STAND program which will include funding to be allocated towards an additional 95 sites in WA. The Department of Fire and Emergency Services invited the Shire of Dardanup to nominate community locations that could benefit from inclusion in the program.

During emergencies such as major bushfires, storms and floods, communities face the risk of losing their telecommunications services to stay in touch with family members and loved ones. The STAND program funds NBN Sky Muster satellite services that provide Wi-Fi to community relief / recovery assembly centres to enhance telecommunications resilience for communities impacted during emergencies.

The Shire has nominated the Eaton Recreation Centre, Dardanup Hall and the Wellington Mills Bush Fire Brigade station as suitable sites. If successful, these locations will receive equipment that would provide a satellite connection to the NBN, which will provide the community with a free Wi-Fi hotspot improving communication during a disaster/bushfire event. Ultimately ensuring our communities are more resilient and importantly prepared.

### **Local Government Grant Scheme (LGGS)**

Funding for Bush Fire Brigades and State Emergency Service units is allocated via the Local Government Grant Scheme, which itself is funded by moneys collected through the Emergency Services Levy. The Shire uses Local Government Grant Scheme to fund the operational and capital expenses of its eight brigades.

The Shire was successful in obtaining a modest increase in allocation for 2025/26, increasing to \$255,000. This increase was to partially fund important brigade station maintenance. In addition, one 'Line 9' application was accepted to install water filtration to the Waterloo Station to enhance volunteer safety.

As of 15 September 2025, a total of \$53,245 has been expended. A total of \$114,000 has been committed; this is not unexpected as large procurements for insurance and vehicle servicing is expected at the beginning of the financial year.

The Shire has commenced circulating a LGGS budget update monthly to Brigades and a fortnightly update on actioned requests received from volunteers. If there are any questions in relation to this or you would like additional information included in the updates, please let the Shire know.

### **Bush Fire Brigade Handbook**

A full review of the Bush Fire Brigade Handbook has been undertaken. Three face-to-face consultation meetings were conducted recently to agree on the general content. The latest draft of the Handbook has been distributed to Captains and FCOs for comment on the detailed contents.

The Handbook will now be reviewed by the Shire's Work Health and Safety team to verify that it fits within the current Shire context.

Our neighbouring local governments have similar documents for their bushfire brigades. During bushfires it is expected that local governments will share bushfire fighting resources as needed. Thus, there is a move to ensure guidance, such as our Handbook, is harmonised to ensure that there is consistency in how brigades operate. Once these additional consultations are undertaken the Handbook will be put to BFAC for endorsement for Council approval.

### **Verge Burning**

Following the BFAC meeting in July 2025, Shire Officers met internally to discuss a process to facilitate our Brigade volunteers undertaking verge burns on low risk/low volume rural roads within the Shire. A small budget has been allocated to assist the Brigades with traffic management. The Shire Officers will be finalising the process once discussions have been undertaken with the Chief Bush Fire Officer and DFES which has been scheduled to occur shortly.

**8.13**      **Title: Firebreak Exemption – Ranger Services****Reporting Department***Shire of Dardanup***Reporting Officer***Mr Paul Sydney-Smith – Senior Ranger*

Consideration needs to be given for the following applications for exemption or variations to the fire prevention measures taken out by the following applicants in accordance with the *Bush Fire Act 1954* and pursuant to the Shire of Dardanup Fire Prevention Order.

Request for Fire Break Exemptions received as follows. Submissions are provided for in Appendix 8.13A and Appendix 8.13B.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION****THAT the Bushfire Advisory Committee:**

- 1. Approves firebreak exemption/variations for a 3-year duration commencing from the 2025/2026 firebreak season and expiring in 2028/2029 for the following properties:**

Applicant	Property	Assessment	Years	Fire Season Expiry
Elizabeth Eastman	149 Rich Place, Dardanup West	A7192	3	2028
Daniel Normington	27 Sand Pits Road, Crooked Brook	A10825	3	2028
Mike Tefry	19 The Dress Circle, Henty	A2527	3	2028
James Brussen	2 Pfennig Place, Henty	A7280	3	2028
Trevor Hill	39 Nyleeta Close, Ferguson	A3016	3	2028
Mark Titchener	Lot 1620 Ferguson Road, Ferguson	A7292	3	2028
Jane Skipworth	101 Greenwood Heights, Ferguson	A3027	3	2028
Andrew Carrick	19 Tyrrell Road, Ferguson	A7315	3	2028
Chris Walton	43 Greenwood Heights, Ferguson	A3023	3	2028
Theresa Barker	19 Killarney Road, Dardanup West	A11684	3	2028
Susan Green	29 Coonan Avenue, Dardanup West	A8106	3	2028

<b>Amanda Thrasher</b>	<b>138 Garvey Road, Dardanup West</b>	<b>A2596</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Neil Dyer</b>	<b>136 Padbury Road, Dardanup West</b>	<b>A3701</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Reece Nash</b>	<b>37 Gavins Gully Court, Dardanup West</b>	<b>A8228A</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Grant Legge</b>	<b>41 Maher Place, Dardanup West</b>	<b>A2602</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Matthew Pover</b>	<b>12 Meadow Lane, Dardanup West</b>	<b>A8234</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Gerhard Vrijburg</b>	<b>18 Meadow Lane, Dardanup West</b>	<b>A11157</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Malcolm Woods</b>	<b>21 Pfennig Place, Henty</b>	<b>A7218</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Catherine Sayers</b>	<b>97 Greenwood Heights, Ferguson</b>	<b>A3026</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Andrew Grieve</b>	<b>11 Seaview Heights, Henty</b>	<b>A2516</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Jason Collard</b>	<b>18 Tweed Chase, Crooked Brook</b>	<b>A11943</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>David Rumball</b>	<b>260 Garvey Road, Dardanup West</b>	<b>A12006</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Shaun Rumball</b>	<b>262 Garvey Road, Dardanup West</b>	<b>12007</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Jason Collard</b>	<b>18 Tweed Chase, Crooked Brook</b>	<b>A11943</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Paul Psiuk</b>	<b>47 Keenan Road, Dardanup West</b>	<b>A11081</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Robert Britza</b>	<b>14677 Southwestern Highway, Picton East</b>	<b>A8297</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Shane Gibson</b>	<b>16 Kentucky Drive, Dardanup West</b>	<b>A8087</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Daniel Willcocks</b>	<b>233 Garvey Road, Dardanup West</b>	<b>A11619</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Robert Doherty</b>	<b>507 Wellington Mills Road, Wellington Mills</b>	<b>A7198</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Gail Dawn Scott-Pillow</b>	<b>1 Maguire Place, Dardanup West</b>	<b>A8257</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Raymond Edward Cosh and Elizabeth Tamzin Langley Cosh</b>	<b>21 Rafferty Road, Dardanup West</b>	<b>A3274</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>

<b>Matthew Denton</b>	<b>60 Japonica View, Wellington Mills</b>	<b>A3859</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Peter Cowley</b>	<b>168 Garvey Road, Dardanup West</b>	<b>A2594</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>
<b>Stuart Fowler</b>	<b>149 Rich Place, Dardanup West</b>	<b>A8328</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2028</b>

## OFFICER RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION

**THAT the Bushfire Advisory Committee:**

- Approves firebreak exemption/variations for a 1-year duration commencing from the 2025/2026 firebreak season and expiring in 2026/2027 for the following properties:**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Property</b>	<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Years</b>	<b>Fire Season Expiry</b>
<b>Daniel Skerratt</b>	<b>Lot 3001 Eaton Drive, EATON</b>	<b>A4353</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2026</b>

## **9. NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE**

[Please Note: This is Not General Business – This is for Urgent Business Approved By the Person Presiding or by Decision. In cases of extreme urgency or other special circumstance, matters may, with the consent of the person presiding, or by decision of the members present, be raised without notice and decided by the meeting.]

## **10. CLOSURE OF MEETING.**

The Chairperson advises that the date of the next Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting is to be determined.

There being no further business the Chairperson to declare the meeting closed.